

JS *AL* IN THE ABSTRACT:

Kindly add the following Abstract of the Disclosure on the following separate page:

Remarks

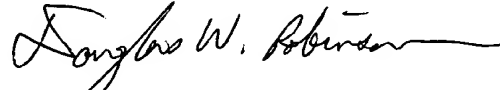
The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted prior to prosecution on the merits. In this Preliminary Amendment, the specification claims have been amended to put the application in compliance with U.S. practice. In addition, an Abstract of the Disclosure has been added. Applicant submits that these amendments add no new matter to the application. Claims 1-23 correspond to claims 1-23 of German Patent Application No. P43 19 944.5, and new claims 24-41 correspond to claim 1-18 of German Patent Application No. P 43 18 484.7

Approval and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Submitted herewith are certified copies of the priority documents, along with a Declaration and Power of Attorney, a Verified Statement claiming small entity status, and a check for the appropriate filing fees. You are authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2455 any additional fees to maintain the pendency of the present application.

If any issues remain which can best be solved by a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Douglas W. Robinson".

Douglas W. Robinson
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June 3, 1994
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